

REMARKS

I. Objection to Figures 1 and 2

The Assignee respectfully thanks Examiner Ensey for discussing the objection to Figures 1 and 2 with the Assignee's attorney on January 7-8, 2009. As agreed to during the telephone conversation, the description of Figures 1 and 2 in the specification has been amended thereby obviating the objections to these figures. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to Figures 1 and 2.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 112: Claims 1, 28, 29, 30, 32, and 33

Claims 1, 28, 29, 30, 32, and 33 have been amended to correct the identified antecedent basis issues. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully asserts that these claims, and associated dependent claims, are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully requests the withdrawal of these rejections.

III. Objection to Claim 9

Claim 9 has been amended thereby obviating this objection. The Assignee respectfully asserts that claim 9 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Assignee respectfully requests the withdrawal of this objection.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 103: Claims 34-36

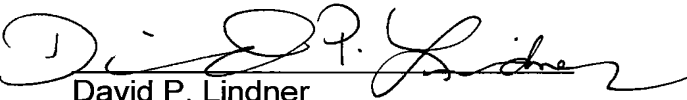
To advance prosecution, claims 34-36 are cancelled without prejudice. The Assignee reserves the right to prosecute these claims in a continuation application.

CONCLUSION

The Assignee respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and a notice to this effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if it would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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